

**Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Funding Criteria, Round 2**  
100 point scoring system

1. To be eligible for reimbursement funding, programs and projects must demonstrate that they are designed specifically to encourage and enable students in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade to safely walk or ride bicycles between home and school. Applications shall be scored on the basis of the "5Es:" Evaluation, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Engineering. If an activity could be included in more than one area, it shall be listed only once, in the most appropriate category. SRTS funding is intended to encourage new initiatives. However, consideration will be given to communities that have already established similar programs to encourage walking and bicycling to school. (60 points total)

a. Evaluation:

1. Comprehensive SRTS "travel" or "action" plan. Such a plan should document how both infrastructure projects and non-infrastructure programs will create safe routes between residential neighborhoods and schools and encourage students to use them. (Affects both infrastructure and non-infrastructure. Questions 6 through 8 of application form.) (10 points)
2. Surveys and site visits to assess barriers to safe walking and biking. SRTS participants shall use standard in-class and parent survey forms prepared by the National Center for Safe Routes to School and partner organizations (see application guidelines for details). Follow-up surveys must be conducted after the program has been implemented. Applications demonstrating that a program affects a larger number of students will receive higher scores in this area. (Affects both infrastructure and non-infrastructure. Question 8 of application form.) (10 points)

- b. Education: Classroom or extra-curricular activities addressing safe biking and walking practices. (Examples: Bike rodeo by local police; special instructor for bike safety; pedestrian safety training.) (Non-infrastructure. Question 8 of application form) (10 points)
  - c. Encouragement: Promotion of walking and biking through public relations and school events. Examples can include a walk- or bike-to-school day (or week), walking school bus or bike train, and assemblies focusing on safety and fitness issues. (Non-infrastructure. Question 8 of application form.) (10 points)
  - d. Enforcement: Identification by local officials of potentially dangerous driving habits, crime and bullying on streets near schools. Commitment by local law enforcement to address violations. Public relations campaign for local drivers. New signs if necessary. (Non-infrastructure; signs are infrastructure. Question 8 of application form.) (10 points)
  - e. Engineering: Physical changes such as construction and repairs to sidewalks and bike routes, signs and traffic signals, and pavement marking. Includes identification and mapping of physical barriers, preliminary planning and engineering. (Infrastructure. Questions 9 of application form.) (10 points)
2. Demonstrated community support for program (40 points total)
- a. Task force with broad representation of community stakeholders. (Question 7 of application form.)(10 points)
  - b. Documentation (letter) of support from municipal and school executive or legislative body (e.g. city/town council, board of aldermen, board of selectmen, school board) with authority to enter into a binding agreement. Support includes commitments to both initial funding for

reimbursed expenses as well as future maintenance for infrastructure improvements. (Question 14 of application form.)(10 points)

- c. Parental support as reflected by surveys coordinated by the planning task force in the evaluation process. (Question 15 of application form.)(10 points)
- d. Letters of support from educational community groups such as PTA/PTO. (Question 16 of application form.) (5 points)
- e. Letters of support from local, regional or statewide biking and walking organizations as well as other interested advocacy groups. (Question 17 of application form.)(5 points)

3. Disadvantaged communities. Applications that address "Objective #2: Make the Program Accessible to Diverse Participants." (Question 20 of application form. See the funding guidelines for details) (20 bonus points.)

**Startup funding:** Schools and communities in the preliminary phases of SRTS planning and organizing may apply for funding by submitting a description of proposed activities as well as a budget for expenses associated with start-up. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, conducting surveys, preparing a travel plan, and initial education, encouragement and enforcement activities. Funds may also be used for preliminary planning of infrastructure projects. Startup awards will generally be limited to \$5,000. (Localities may apply for larger amounts by filling out the complete application and submitting a budget for preparing a more comprehensive travel plan and non-infrastructure activities.) Creation of a task force, described in 2a above shall be a prerequisite for startup funding. Applications shall be scored on a 50-point system, with up to 10 points awarded for a task force with wide representation, and up to 10 points each for evaluation, education, encouragement, and enforcement. (Questions 5, 7 and 21 of application form.)

**Eligibility:** Both public and non-public schools are eligible to participate.

Regional Planning Commissions, not-for-profit organizations and other public service and planning entities that are able to enter a binding contract are eligible to apply for funds for providing services directly related to the 5Es.

**Geographical Distribution:** In selecting projects for funding, the Statewide Advisory Committee shall give consideration to distributing awards as widely as possible to all regions of New Hampshire.